

AM7030
LB 546
MMM-03-03

AM7030
LB 546
MMM-03-03

E & R AMENDMENTS TO LB 546

1 1. Strike the original sections and all amendments
2 thereto and insert the following new sections:

3 "Section 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as
4 the Nebraska Opportunity Zone Act.

5 Sec. 2. The Legislature finds and declares that the area
6 adjacent to the Interstate 80 corridor running through the entire
7 length of Nebraska affords an excellent opportunity for business
8 expansion, economic development, job creation, and
9 education-business partnerships. The Legislature further declares
10 that this opportunity is best realized through regional cooperation
11 in which the communities, businesses, and educational entities in
12 the corridor work together to pursue common goals within
13 opportunity zones. The Department of Economic Development is
14 encouraged to work with interested parties within the corridor to
15 create opportunity zones similar to the one established in section
16 7 of this act.

17 Sec. 3. An opportunity zone commission shall advocate
18 and recommend programs that encourage regional cooperation and
19 foster community sustainability and economic development
20 initiatives. The chairperson and vice-chairperson of a commission
21 shall supervise the hiring of the executive director using the
22 state personnel hiring process. The Department of Economic
23 Development shall provide administrative and technical support to a
24 commission. A commission may secure cooperation and assistance of

AM7030
LB 546
MMM-03-03

AM7030
LB 546
MMM-03-03

1 and funding from other appropriate government and private-sector
2 entities.

3 Sec. 4. An opportunity zone commission shall:

4 (1) Focus attention on and increase awareness of the
5 opportunities and needs in a particular region of Nebraska,
6 referred to as the opportunity zone;

7 (2) Advocate by proposing solutions to challenges faced
8 in the opportunity zone;

9 (3) Encourage and support continuity, coordination, and
10 cooperation among national, state, multicomunity, and local
11 economic development initiatives and service providers in the
12 opportunity zone;

13 (4) Serve as an advisory body to the Governor, state
14 agencies, and the Legislature on economic development issues in the
15 opportunity zone;

16 (5) Establish an information clearinghouse on challenges
17 and needs, development services, model initiatives, available
18 resources, and service providers;

19 (6) Foster multicomunity partnerships;

20 (7) Foster regional marketing activities to promote the
21 opportunity zone;

22 (8) Study and develop recommendations for uniform county
23 zoning within the opportunity zone; and

24 (9) Accept contributions from member entities to fund the
25 activities of the commission.

26 Sec. 5. An opportunity zone commission may:

27 (1) Appoint nonvoting members, obtain advisors, create

AM7030
LB 546
MMM-03-03

AM7030
LB 546
MMM-03-03

1 task forces composed of noncommission members, or engage in other
2 appropriate activities necessary in completing the commission's
3 duties;

4 (2) Issue reports, recommendations, or other
5 communications as deemed necessary by a majority of voting members
6 of the commission;

7 (3) Adopt operating procedures and guidelines; and

8 (4) Engage in other activities relevant and appropriate
9 to its purpose, duties, and powers.

10 In addition, the commission may receive or apply for and
11 receive gifts, grants, contributions, and other funds from the
12 federal government, private agencies, affiliated associations, and
13 individuals and contract with public and private groups to conduct
14 its business.

15 Sec. 6. On or before February 15 of each year, the
16 executive director of an opportunity zone commission shall transmit
17 to the Governor and the Clerk of the Legislature an annual report
18 which includes a summary of the commission's activities,
19 recommendations for future economic development action in the
20 opportunity zone, and an accounting of the source and use of funds
21 disbursed during the previous fiscal year.

22 Sec. 7. (1) The Legislature finds an opportunity exists
23 to develop high technology business between the Omaha and Lincoln
24 business communities, the university system of the State of
25 Nebraska, including the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, the
26 University of Nebraska at Omaha, and the University of Nebraska
27 Medical Center, and Sarpy County, including Offutt Air Force Base.

AM7030
LB 546
MMM-03-03

AM7030
LB 546
MMM-03-03

1 The Legislature further finds that the cities of Lincoln and Omaha
2 are moving toward designation as a single metropolitan statistical
3 area for census purposes, possibly by the federal decennial census.
4 Therefor, an opportunity zone commission should be established for
5 eastern Nebraska.

6 (2) The Nebraska Innovation Zone Commission is created.
7 The commission shall consist of the following members:

8 (a) Three members appointed by the county board of
9 Douglas County;

10 (b) Two members appointed by the county board of Sarpy
11 County;

12 (c) Two members appointed by the county board of
13 Lancaster County;

14 (d) One member appointed by the county board of Cass
15 County;

16 (e) One member appointed by the county board of Saunders
17 County;

18 (f) One member appointed by the city council of Omaha;

19 (g) One member appointed by the city council of Lincoln;

20 (h) One member representing cities of the first class
21 within Douglas, Sarpy, Lancaster, Cass, and Saunders counties
22 appointed by the other members of the commission;

23 (i) One member representing cities of the second class
24 and villages within Douglas, Sarpy, Lancaster, Cass, and Saunders
25 counties appointed by the other members of the commission;

26 (j) One member appointed by the Board of Regents of the
27 University of Nebraska;

AM7030
LB 546
MMM-03-03

AM7030
LB 546
MMM-03-03

1 (k) One member appointed by the community college areas;

2 (l) One member appointed by the board of directors of the
3 Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District; and

4 (m) One member appointed by the board of directors of the
5 Lower Platte South Natural Resources District.

6 (3) The chairperson and vice-chairperson of the
7 commission shall be elected by a majority of the members of the
8 commission at the first commission meeting and shall each serve a
9 two-year term as chairperson and vice-chairperson, respectively.
10 The commission shall meet at the call of the chairperson or a
11 majority of the members. The chairperson shall call such meetings
12 as he or she determines necessary to fulfill the duties of the
13 commission. A quorum shall be one-half of the members. The
14 members of the commission shall be reimbursed for their actual and
15 necessary expenses as provided in sections 81-1174 to 81-1177.

16 (4) The commission shall carry out the duties set forth
17 in section 4 of this act as they relate to eastern Nebraska.

18 Sec. 8. The provisions of the Nebraska Opportunity Zone
19 Act shall terminate on December 31, 2010."

20 2. On page 1, line 3, strike the first "and" and after
21 "duties" insert "; and to provide a termination date".